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August 2, 2005

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RECEIVED

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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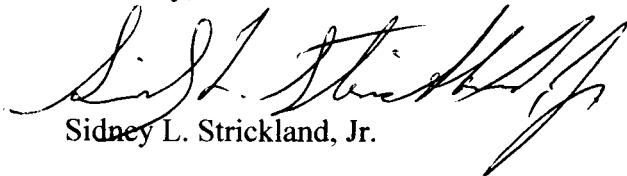
Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 429X); The BNSF
Railway Company Abandonment in Ramsey County, MN

~~Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-882 (Sub-No. IX); The Minnesota
Commercial Railway Company Discontinuance of Service Exemption in Ramsey
County, MN~~

Dear Secretary Williams:

In reply to the July 29, 2005 "City of Maplewood, MN" letter to the Surface
Transportation Board, requesting the issuance of a Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) in
the above-referenced docket, BNSF consents to issuance of the requested NITU to permit
BNSF and the City of Maplewood to negotiate a rail-banking agreement.

Sincerely,


Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.

SLS/cac

cc: James Gallegos
Richard Batie
Betty Reinert
John Sims

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

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Public Record